C.xxv.

AN

Alarm to England:

OR, A

WARNING-PIECE

TO ALL

True Protestants.

Wherein is Discovered the present Design of the FRENCH.

How long shall we suffer our selves to be blinded with Sanctified Lies and Shams? How long shall the watchful Genius of this Nation's Sleep with Forreign Enchantments and Domestick Dreams? Awake, O my Native Countrey Men! Shake off your Stupid Lethargy, the *Fiend* is upon you, will ye yet Slumber? Look back into past times, Examine the Records of our Nation: What Arts were then used? What Stratagems invented to Propagate Lies, and stifle the Truth? Even so it is; the same spirit is at work, the same Cheats carrying on, and as malicious Instruments employed now, as ever, in managing their dark Intreagues. A Spirit of Falsehood is gone forth to Seduce the People of this Land, and we are so far inchanted by it, as not to believe our own Eyes, or give credit to our Experience: But will rather swallow Palpable Contradictions in favour of a Party than imbrace the truth in its naked and regarded appearance: This has been our misfortune for many years, and tho the wiser and sobereſt part of the Kingdom have been long sensible of it, yet they have not so much Influence on the less discerning multitude, as to be capable of undeceiving them; so flexible are they to the more advantagious Impressions, made on them by their Factious Ringleaders: Witness the present, false and Seditious Reports, which are not more Industriously spread, than readily believed throughout the Nation.

It is the general Discourse, both in Town and Country, That there is a league concluded between His Majesty of *Great Brittain*, and the *French* King, to make War with *Holland*, and to Root out all the Protestants of that Country, &c. To confirm this ungrounded Rumour, they confidently report, That His most Christian Majesty told the Ambassadour of the States; That his Masters were guilty of abeting Crowned Heads; and that he should as little suffer such Indignities to be offered to his Kinsman and Ally, as to Himself.——Another report of the same stamp is this, That the P—— of *Orange* having taken some *French* Ships by way of Reprizal, and it being Remonstrated to him by the *French* Resident, he answered, that he would take more in a little time, or words to that Effect.——A Third Story is, That the *Dutch* have by their Ambassadour, at the English Court, desired His Majesty of Great Brittain to declare which Part he will Side with, otherwise they will seize all the English Ships and Vessels they meet with, with many more shams of the same nature: In answer to which, I Averr, That,

Neither His Most Christian Majesty, nor the Prince of *Orange*, have delivered themselves in the aforelaid manner, there being no occasion for it, nor (if there had) is it the custom of Monarchs and Princes to use such Menacing Expressions one towards another; it being more suitable to their Grandeur to discover their Resentments at the head of Armies, than in passionate words. But take the matter as it really is; The late Elector of *Cologne* being Dead, opposite Interests were made for a Successor, the Chaplain of *Cologne* made choice of Prince *Clement* of *Bavaria* for the succeeding Elector, which choice, is approved by his Holiness: At the same time, the *French* made a Party for Cardinal *Furstemberg*. The difference in the number of the Votes on each side is well enough known,

and

And therefore I need not expatiate on that Subject, but His most Christian Majesty having espoused the cause of Cardinal *Furstemberg*, and declared, That whosoever should raise Forces, or interest themselves in defence of Prince *Clement* of *Bavaria*, he should esteem them as breakers of the Peace, and Aggressors; and in the interim, the States of *Holland* raising Forces and seeming to favour the Election of Prince *Clement*; His Most Christian Majesty likewise has thought fit to make an Addition to His Standing Army. Now there being these Preparations on all hands by our Neighbours, can we blame our Dread Soveraign for appearing like himself, and fitting out an Equipage suitable to the British Grandeur? The *Hollanders* ('tis well known) have a considerable Fleet out at Sea, so have the *French*, besides their Armies by Land, and must *England* alone lie still Unarm'd, without Defence, when all Nations round about her are in Arms? No, no, for Shame leave off this narrow humour, throw away this Effeminacy, and awake to Honour, to Renown and Glory: Let not the name of Englishmen, once a Terror to other Countries, now grow a by-word through our own Tameness. But why do I thus Expostulate? We are at present in Amity, and may still so continue, notwithstanding these formidable preparations on all sides: Those Prologues of War, may prevent all acts of Hostility (for ought we know) and conclude in an Epilogue of general Peace. But this is the great *Arcanum* of the Faction, *Calumniare fortiter aliquid adhæret!* 'Tis their Master-piece now to improve every Shadow, and by their old Staunch'd Legerdemain, make the too credulous Vulgar believe 'tis a Substance. Here's a noise of Navies and Armies, ning of Ships, Doubling of Garrisons ing up for Voluntiers, and a Speech And 'twere a dull Trade, if our Wits could not raise the Devil Epidemicall *Buzz*. It must be *Fetu*. That's the Clerical Religion and Property, the old Species of Rebellion and Ruine; the *French* *Dutch*, are engaged in different bout the *Cologne* Election. —— *English* Protestants must look The King of *England* is making pearance by Sea and Land, as with the Honour and Security of the *Europe*. There is a design to Root out *Lutherans* of *Holland*: Why, the Great might with as much Reason suppose because the *Ottomans* are forced Raise new Forces, and Recruit their Armies, in order to carry on the the Christians, they design to invade pire, and joyn their Armies to plant *Mahomets-Christianism* in the *Eastern*

To Conclude, Dear Country begun, Let us awake out of the ber into which the Enemies of the ment have cast us. Let Reason their besotting Opiates. Rouze up off the Charm, Believe the Word of who never was yet known to break Promise. Believe your selves, in spite er 'tis to Elect such a Parliament Secure to you, and your Posterity, ling *Liberty of Conscience*, by a *MAGNA CHARTA*, which neither *France* *Dutch*, nor any one Interest or Party Home or Abroad, shall be ever able to Land or Disanul.

Vive Princeps Christianus

FINIS.

With Allowance.

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